

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 06014 261002Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W  
----- 022912  
O 260852Z SEP 74  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3061

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 6014

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, TW  
SUBJECT: ROC NATIONAL OPERA TROUP VISIT TO US

REF: A) STATE 211342; B) TAIPEI 5986; V) TAIPEI 5927;  
D) TAIPEI 4297; E) TAIPEI 4107 (EXDIS); F) TAIPEI  
2958 (EXDIS) G) STATE 094524 (NODIS); H) STATE  
093791

1. SUMMARY: SINCE DEPARTMENT WS NOTIFIED IN MAY THAT  
OPERA TROUPE WOULD APPEAR AT SPOKANE AND TOUR US AFTER-  
WARDS, EMBASSY BELIEVES GROG HAS MADE SINCERE EFFORT  
TO COMPLY WITH OUR REQUEST AND RECENT PROBLEM PROBABLY STEMS  
FROM POOR UNDERSTANDING AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GROG  
AGENCIES. EMBASSY PLANS TO REVIEW PROBLEM ON LOW-KEY  
BASIS WITH MOFA AND TO CONTACT WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS  
IN MOED TO OUTLINE NECESSARY PROCEDURES FOR FUTURE.  
END SUMMARY:

2. BOTH ROC EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON (REF H MAY 1974) AND  
EMBASSY TAIPEI (REF D JULY 1974) HAD INFORMED DEPART-  
MENT OPERA TROUPE WOULD BE APPEARING AT EXPO-UR SPOKANE  
UNDER GROG SPONSORSHIP. ALTHOUGH DETAILED ITINERAY NOT  
AVAILABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 23, REF D PROVIDED TENTATIVE  
ITINERARY WITH APPROXIMATE DATES.

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3. EMBASSY BELIEVES MAYAND JULY DISCUSSIONS REFS D, F

AND H CONSTITUTE APPROPRIATE PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF OPERA VISIT. GROC FAILED, HOWEVER, TO PROVIDE FINAL DETAIL ITINERARY AT AN EARLY DATE AND TO APPLY PROMPTLY FOR H PETITION. EMBASSY BELIEVES GROC'S PROBLEM WAS POOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (MOED) WHICH HANDLES TROUP AND MOFA.

4. ALTHOUGH GROC FAILED TO NOTIFY US IN CASE OF VARIETY TROUP, WE BELIEVE THIS ALSO REFLECTS POOR INTERNAL COORDINATION. MOED APPARENTLY NOT FAMILIAR WITH PRIOR NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT AND VISA PROBLEMS INVOLVED.

5. EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON COPING WITH THESE PROBLEMS OUTLINED IN REF E. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS LATEST CASE IS AN EXAMPLE OF AN INTENTIONAL EFFORT TO DISREGARD OUTSTANDING REQUEST AND DO NOT BELIEVE DEMARCH IS NECESSARY AT THIS TIME. OUR OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO INSURE PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND PROMPT VISA REQUESTS IN THE FUTURE. THEREFORE, POL COUNSELOR WILL REVIEW PROBLEM WITH MOFA ON A LOW KEY BASIS. WE WILL ALSO HAVE A USIS OFFICER, WHO IS IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH MOED, AND A CONSULAR OFFICER MEET WITH APPROPRIATE WORKING-LEVEL MOED OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AND OTHER OFFICIAL TOURS. WE WILL EXPLAIN THE NECESSITY AND IMPORTANCE OF PRIOR NOTIFICATION, TIMELY PREPARATION OF H PETITIONS AND EARLY SUBMISSION OF DETAILED ITINERARY -- AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE.

6. WE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT REVIEW CONTROL PROCEDURES OUTLINED REF E, PARA 5. UNGER

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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